MONTEREY NEWS

NOVEMBER 1988

TOWN NEWS

Tips for Deer Season from Monterey Landowners Association

Shotgun season for deer runs from November 28 through December 7, Sundays excluded. Archery season begins November 7 and ends the 26th. Primitive firearm season runs from December 19 to 21.

Monterey's game warden, Sgt. Roger Arduini, advises landowners to start posting land now, while trespassing signs are in good supply. He also suggests that signs be posted high off the ground, so they won't be torn down. "Carry along a three- or four-foot stepladder," he says. "If they're all torn down before deer week, they won't do any good."

The Monterey Landowners Association will provide signs for sale in the Monterey General Store to all members at three for $1.00 or ten for $2.50. Any Monterey resident who would like to join the Association may send a one-time membership fee of $5.00 to MLA, Box 95, Monterey, MA 01245. You will receive five free No Trespassing signs plus an unlimited number of permits and placards to be distributed to hunters to whom you have given permission to hunt on your land. The Association was formed in 1985 in order to give residents the means to monitor and control hunting on their properties. Hunting or entry without written permission is prohibited on the land of Association members. Each hunter given permission to hunt carries a permit on his person and displays a permit placard in his vehicle. A copy of each permit is held by the landowner.

Hunting season in Monterey has been relatively uneventful for the last several years. Hunters, by and large, have been respectful of the rights of landowners and willing to ask for written permits. The Association erects orange and black warning signs at all major road entrances to the town, reading, "Hunters: Written Permission Required."

Sgt. Arduini urges residents to post the entire perimeter of their properties. He described an incident last year involving a property posted only along its frontline. Hunters entered from the back of the property. When the landowner complained, law enforcement officers found it difficult to present his position in court.

Radio communication promises to be improved this year. The Division of Law Enforcement is putting in a new relay point on Mt. Wilcox in Monterey, so that signals can reach pockets previously unreachable among our hills.

The number to call to report violations is 1-800-632-8075. Sgt. Arduini also may be reached through the Berkshire County Communications System (1-442-0512). Officer Craig Scott, in charge of nearby towns including Great Barrington, may be reached through the Barrington Police Department.

These details and more pertaining to the rights and recourse of landowners will be published next month in the *Monterey News*. You may obtain your own copy of the Abstracts of the 1988 Fish and Wildlife Laws from Monterey's Town Clerk.

New Town Policy Regarding Hunting on Town Lands

Monterey's Selectmen agreed at their October 24 meeting to establish a policy for hunting season which allows no hunting or camping including the use of trailers on any Town-owned lands. These lands include Town beaches, parks, cemeteries and vehicle turn-arounds.

At a recent school committee meeting attended by the

Selectmen, parents expressed concern for children walking to meet schoolbuses during deer season. In consideration of the increased pressure on towns in Western Massachusetts by hunters, the Selectmen feel that keeping Town recreational areas free of hunters during the peak season will help prevent residents and school children from being endangered or intimidated by hunters.

The Board also stated that it unanimously supports the requirements published by the Monterey Landowners Association that hunters must seek permission to go on private lands.

Special Dump Weekend a Success

Selectman Matt Williams reported that the Special Dump Weekend organized by the Town to provide residents an opportunity to divest themselves of otherwise un-dumpable goods was a success. There will probably be another opportunity next year for a similar purge. Items brought by residents filled one of the two receptacles provided, and the fees paid covered expenses, less about $40. There is a possibility of a hazardous/toxic waste dump day being provided also, after research is done into procedures for such an event.

Costs of New Entrance for Grange High

Having conferred with a builder, Monterey Selectmen were disappointed to learn that the expense of providing a new entrance on the river side of the Grange Hall will be higher than they expected. The Grange members at the time of their donation of the building to the Town had requested a special entrance into the basement room for themselves to prevent their having to walk through Town administrative offices to reach their meeting space. There was also a request for accessibility for the aged and handicapped. This will require a ramp and a covered walkway, among other things. The job must go out for bids, an architect must be engaged, then a contractor. The whole process will probably take so much time that the request for funds will not be made until the annual Town Meeting in spring, 1989.

— Ellen K. Pearson

CHURCH NEWS

Calendar

Tuesday, November 1 7:00 a.m. Monthly Prayer Breakfast at the home of Alice Howell and Walter Andersen on Beartown Road. All welcome.

Thursday, November 10 7:30 a.m. Friends of Silence meditation at home of David and Judy Bach, Hupi Woods.

Word has been received of the death of Barbara VonSoest, mother of Jan Aerie, in Middletown, New York.

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CATHERINE MIELKE RETIRES

When Catherine Mielke of Blue Hill Road received her masters degree from Antioch College, her husband Bill gave her a brooch with a Latin inscription to "mother, scholar, teacher." On October 19, Catherine retired from the Berkshire Hills Regional School District after 21 years of service. However, the story really begins in 1967 when Catherine and Bill's sixth child, Paula, began first grade.

With all of the children now in school, Catherine went back to college: Westfield State, North Adams State, and the University of Massachusetts, where she earned a bachelor's degree. In the meantime, she had also begun work in the Berkshire Hills Regional School District as a secretary, a librarian, and finally a social studies teacher at Searles Middle School. She continued taking courses during the school year and summers and received the master's degree from Antioch.

At the same time Catherine participated in many civic activities such as the Monterey Conservation Committee, the Democratic Town Committee, 4-H, and Save Scenic Monterey, to mention a few. While teaching at Searles she was on the Teacher's Contract Negotiating Committee for a number of years.

Her retirement means more time to enjoy recreational activities—reading, especially historical novels, swimming and walking. She will enjoy part of her time in Florida in a house her husband has recently had built.

Her extensive and impressive family are William E. Mielke, Sr., retired educator, and children: Mike and Rick, in Monterey; Pat in Ellenburg Depot, New York; Kathy in Gloucester, Massachusetts; Chuck in Huntington, Massachusetts, and recently married Paula in Northampton, Massachusetts. Catherine and Bill have seven grandchildren.

Catherine's enterprise in continuing her education "after 40" and beginning a new career after her children were out of the house has been an inspiration to many other women in Western Massachusetts and elsewhere who have heard of her active life.

NOTICE

In compliance with Massachusetts Law number 310 CMR 22.16, New England Keswick is giving public notification that our water supply test results show a bacteria level higher than that which is allowed for drinking purposes.

— Thank you,

Glenn A. Briggs
New England Keswick

PERSONAL NOTES

Welcome back to **David** and **Judy Bach** of Hupi Road who have recently returned from another stay in Europe. The Bachs have been travelling to Europe about three times a year where many groups of professionals there, such as psychotherapists, business consultants, and astrologers, have been taking the Bachs' training program in Psychosynthesis. They have held such programs recently in Switzerland, Germany and Austria. When asked how it felt to be back in Germany, where David was born, he replied, "It feels like being back home, and I'm glad I left home." The success of their work and the stimulation of positive results and travelling have made for a great experience though. And Judy is valiantly struggling to learn the German language and making progress!

Michael Marcus of Joyous Spring Pottery on Art School Road had an exciting two-week visit from his pottery teacher and wife, **Yoshiko** and **Seiya Toyoba** from Gifu, Japan. It was their first visit to this country, and they enjoyed a whirlwind tour of the East Coast from the Plaza Hotel, to Faneuil Hall, to L. L. Bean in Freeport, Maine. They visited all the museums, spoke with curators, and enjoyed the World Trade Center and the Statue of Liberty. And they loved being in and around Monterey, where they made pots, visited friends, and saw what this wonderful village is all about.

Susan and **David McAllester** have just returned from New Mexico, where they foregathered in Santa Fé, with their son, **Bur**, from San Francisco. David participated in the annual meeting of the College Music Society, which had sessions on American Indian music, and all three McAllesters had several trips into the New Mexico mountains.

Our congratulations to **Brooke Loder** and **William Thieriot**, who were inducted into the Auriga Chapter of the National Honor Society at ceremonies held at Mt. Everett Regional High School on October 18. Brooke and Bill join three other Monterey students as National Honor Society members, **Shelby Loder, President; Natasha Grotz** and **Anne Makuc**. Good work, all of you!

Happy Birthday Wishes to **Jim Gauthier** on October 2, to **Tom Thorn** on October 9, to **Claire Mielke** on October 24, to **Debbie Mielke** on October 27, and to **Patrick McBride** on November 1.

— Stephanie Grotz

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PARK COMMISSION

Now that the memory and detail of the summer of '88 have faded, we are planning for the coming seasons.

We have invited bids for the renovation of the baseball diamond at Green Park. At this writing, it is unknown whether anyone has responded. Those who have played there recently are aware of the substandard and even dangerous condition of the infield and base paths. It is our desire to maintain and upgrade our existing facilities for everyone's enjoyment.

We are pleased to announce the opening of the Brewer Pond Trail. This is a 3/4-mile long hiking trail around Brewer Pond on Town land. The trail head is at the dam, where parking and access are easy. (Signs to come.) The trail was constructed by Bob Rausch and helpers for the enjoyment of the community. At the present time, the trail is marked by orange flags, and it follows as closely as possible the water's edge. Refer to the history and description of the project, written by Bob Rausch, elsewhere in the *News*.

Thanks to the strong support and cooperation of The Monterey Fire Company, we are extremely excited to announce the opening, for the winter season, of the Monterey Skating Complex. This facility, which will be unlike any other in Berkshire County, will be housed under the roof of the fire company pavilion. It is our intention to offer supervised skating, lessons and clinics for all ages, and special events, daytime and under the lights. Ideally, skating will become a regular after-school and after-work activity, a place to meet, and an adventure for the whole family. Hopefully, it will become the cornerstone of The Monterey Winter Carnival!

This new development is an unparalleled opportunity for those of you waiting for a chance to make a difference in the community through direct action. It is a chance to be in on the birth of a new institution: It is a call to arms! We need you to come out strongly now to support this endeavor.

However you visualize it, skating arm in arm with someone special, ice dancing under the stars to some dreamy tunes, or wobbling precariously on newborn skating legs, the only things between this community and skating are the cold and your support. We expect to see all able-bodied citizens at our first informational meeting on Thursday evening, November 3, at 7:30 in the Town office. Keep the spirit!

— Dek Tillett, Chairman
Tom Rosenthal
Fran Amidon

Joyous Spring Pottery
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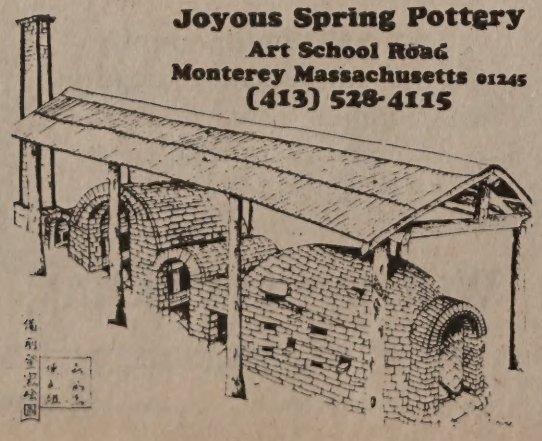
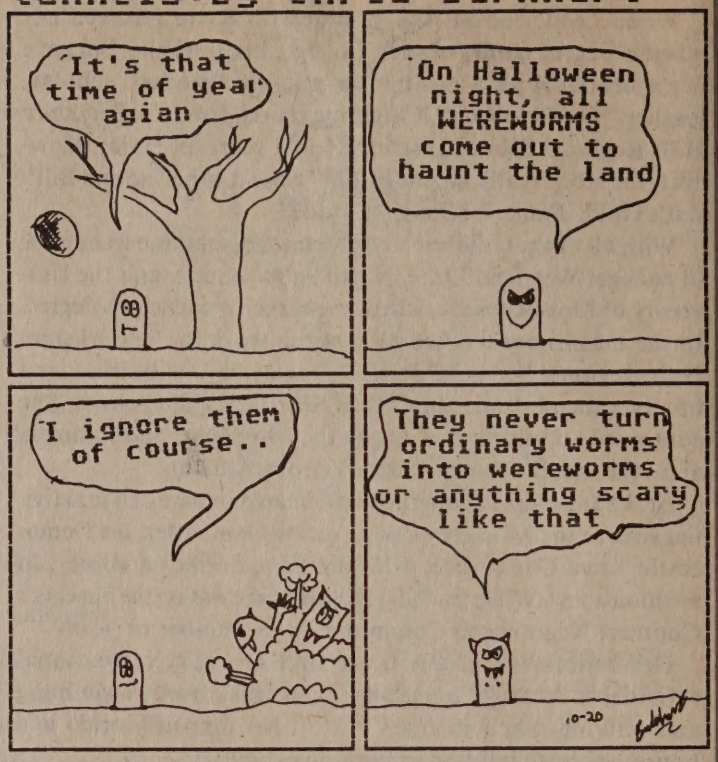


tunnels:by chris burkhart


It's that time of year agian
On Halloween night, all WEREWORMS come out to haunt the land
I ignore them of course..
They never turn ordinary worms into wereworms or anything scary like that
10-20

THE BREWER POND TRAIL

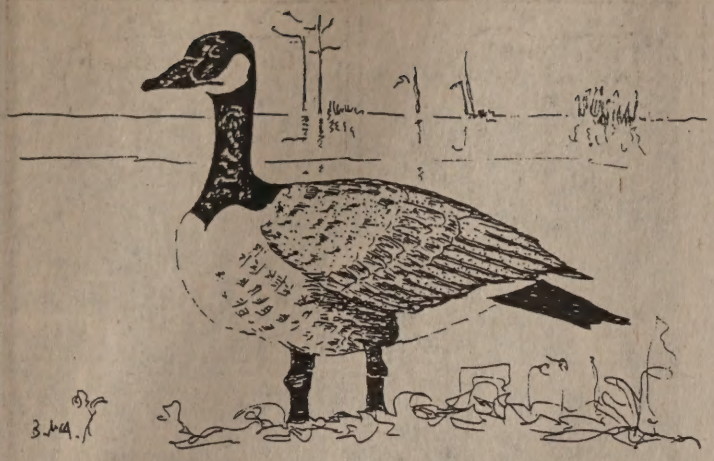
As a result of a Monterey Land Trust meeting this past spring, the idea of a "town trail" emerged. Monterey has its share of trails, true enough, but most are located in Beartown, away from the center of the Village. Early this summer I attended a Parks and Recreation meeting and made this proposal; at that time we decided a loop ramble or walking trail around Brewer Pond would be most desirable — with cross-country skiing in the winter too.

Soon after our meeting, Fran Amidon, Tom Rosenthal, Conrad Ohman (State Forester) and I walked around the Pond and marked out the trail, with the aid of a map showing the Town property lines. Now the loop is essentially completed, cut through as a path.

The trail (as yet unnamed) has its head or beginning at the dam site just off Beartown Mt. Road, where parking is available. We hope to erect a sign there soon. The 3/4-mile trail can be walked in either direction, being a loop. You will end up back where you started, in about half an hour or so. Wear boots, for there are some wet spots. More stepping stones will soon be dropped in these few areas, making your walk higher and drier. The trail will lead you through the forest and then by the water, from being enclosed in a green canopy, to feeling the expansiveness of the water over which there are more distant views.

Of course the flora and fauna are rich and varied, which in the future may lend itself to some scheduled nature interpretation rambles. Thanks to the Land Trust and Parks and Recreation Committee for making this trail possible.

— Robert Rausch



CANADA GEESE

This is late, gray fall, when the bright colors have hit the ground and faded. The wind gets bitter, and reluctantly we get out our extra blankets, our down jackets. There is still a lot of work to be done outside, but we have to dress up for it now; no more running out the door in bare feet to get a few more licks in at the garden. The cold weather slows us down, makes us heavier, and makes us plan more. This is one aspect of the New England seasonal routine, and I sometimes think it is an important reason why we get so tradition-bound. What do you do in the fall? Firewood and harvest: *tradition.*

Seasonal tradition is a comfort. We who glance at the papers now and then have plenty of need for comfort. The newspapers love to batter us with bad news, shake us up with dire warnings. After awhile we develop a kind of numb misery about world affairs and take refuge in the woodpile and garden, where life is seasonal and traditional. This is not a head-in-the-sand denial of all the world's ills, it is just a necessary healing time, a kind of tradition-therapy. Out in the garden, bundled up a little and putting down mulch for the winter, it is safe to look up. These days, when I look up, what I see is geese.

In North America we are generously blessed with Canada geese. In every state of the continental U. S. we can see them swimming in the wetlands or grazing on grassy lowland fields and pastures. At night or in stormy weather when we can't see them, we can hear the flocks of big birds making social talk, or sometimes one or two lone geese calling for company and landing advice. Wherever we see them or hear them, these powerful, handsome creatures are bound to stir the soul.

These are our most common geese, the Canadas, so when we sing our folk songs about the wild goose or the gray goose, we are singing about *Branta canadensis canadensis.* My favorite wild goose song is an old Leadbelly song called "The Preacher Went a-Hunting." In it, the preacher shoots the "gray goose," only to find that this is a bird with legendary strengths, like Babe the Blue Ox. He was six weeks a-falling, and then he took six weeks to be plucked, and then parboiled. Even then, the knife wouldn't cut him, the fork couldn't stick him, and when they took him to the sawmill, the sawmill couldn't handle him. In the last verse, we hear, "The last time I saw him, he was flying over the ocean, with a long string of goslings; and they all went a quaanh-quaanh."

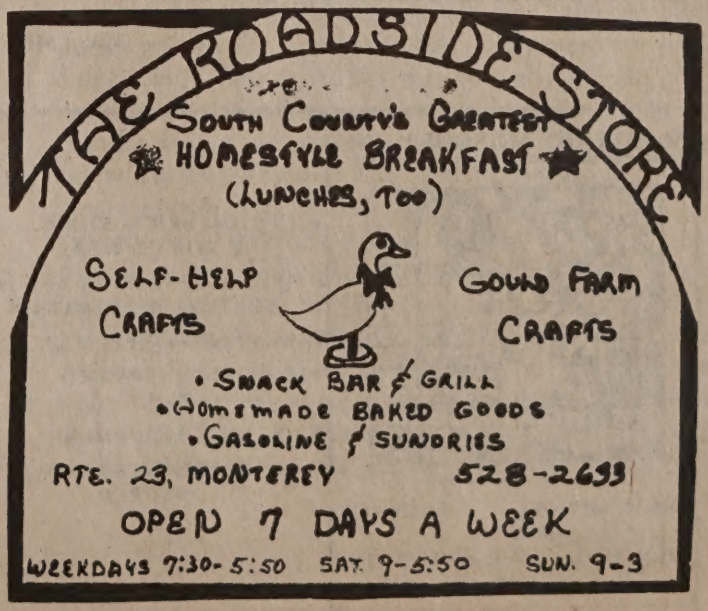
I get a feeling of invincibility from Canada geese. They are reliable,, big, and have an honest profile. Twice a year when we have our major seasonal changes, the geese take to the air in an organized manner, making purposeful symmetry in their travel. They run hard, flap their strong wings and suddenly they are airborne, where they can fly 40 miles per hour and keep it up for 60 hours with little rest. Some flocks migrate twice a year between Hudson Bay and the coast of North Carolina, while others just move a little south to open water and winter food supply, on river or sound. Although we think of them as flying in huge migratory flocks, geese actually have a complex social structure based on the nuclear family. The big flocks have been found to occur most often in multiples of six, which is the average size of the model goose family: two parents and four offspring.

Geese do no harm. I know there are golf-course frequenters and beach-goers who would like to disagree with me here, but if geese leave their droppings on the fairway or the sand, I think we as a species should be the last to criticize. Goose droppings do not threaten future generations with radiation sickness or global catastrophe. As a matter of fact, they make good fertilizer, and I'd much rather have them on my beach, lawn, or garden than practically anything the members of my own species leave behind.

Geese are family-minded and adhere to traditional roles in nesting, incubating and guarding. The gander can be quite fierce and dangerous as he stands off predators or nosy neighbors. J. J. Audubon was attacked and badly beaten by a gander once as he came too close, with artistic intent. (Audubon's artistic intent often included a shotgun, to get the creatures to hold still.) There is an account I read of a horseman who was knocked from his saddle and then had his arm broken by an angry gander.

As winter comes to Hudson Bay, the Canada geese come to us. For two or three weeks we will hear them, harbingers of winter and symbols of the seasons. There is no doubt that winter and hard times are coming, but for thousands of years, the honkers have returned bringing us spring.

— Bonner J. McAllester



WHO'S WHO IN MONTEREY

John Humphrey, Maggie Leonard, Lincoln, Mister and Lupa

John and Maggie just got married at Rock Ridge. You probably saw their wedding balloons in the center of town. In fact, I conducted this interview on their one-month anniversary. Lincoln is Maggie's son from her first marriage to Jed Lipsky. He's always smiling and is very photogenic, as you can see. Mister is their black-and-white dog who took first place at dog obedience school and Lupa, their big black Lab, is overly friendly. That's the group. Here's some background on just the adults.

John Humphrey was born and grew up on a farm in Greensburg, Pennsylvania. He attended Suffield Prep Academy in Connecticut, then studied at Babson College in Wellesley, Massachusetts, and Wentworth Institute in Boston. He spent the next three years housebuilding before moving to Monterey in 1984. John has lived all over Monterey—five different places since he got here. He's now living, permanently, in a beautiful contemporary Cape house he designed and built on Cronk Road, "with lots of local help," he adds. John currently works doing renovations, residential architectural design, and real estate development.

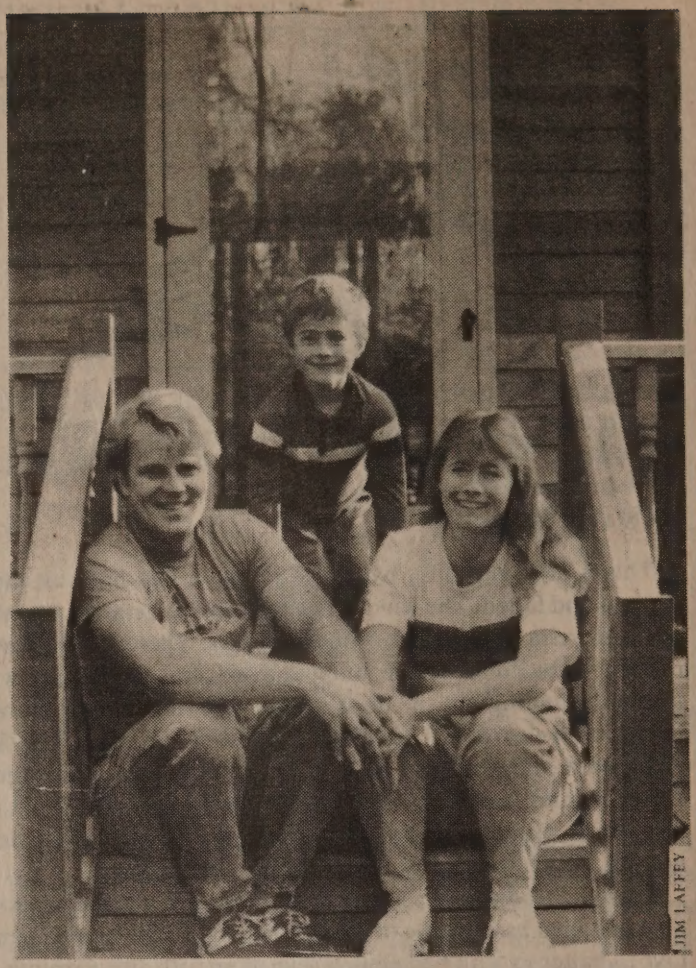
Because she was from a Navy family, Maggie Leonard grew up "all over the Northeast." She's been in Monterey eight years now. She attended Simon's Rock College and then waitressed at the Monterey General Store back when it was a health food store and restaurant. Maggie now works as a photo archivist in a stock photo library in Housatonic.

Asked why they settled in Monterey, John says, "I love Monterey because of its rural beauty and its diverse community." Adds Maggie, "The land preservation concept here is so important, but most of all, it's the people."

John and Maggie met over breakfast two and a half years ago at our own Roadside Store. The rest, as they say, is history.

Coming up in "Who's Who": Postmaster Walter Parks, perhaps Monterey's most patient and helpful resident, and Arthur and Alice Somers, owners of Rock Ridge, who are wintering down in Mexico as you read this. If you have any suggestions of others whom you'd like to read about in this column, please give me a call at 528-5829.

— Jim Laffey



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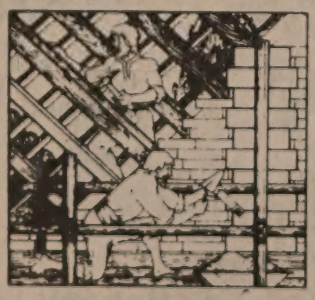

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Soviet Students Visiting Monterey on October 12:
back row, Pavel Aprelev, Oleg Verernchuk, Konstantin Makarov, Alexey Khizhnyak, Sergei Chechnyov, and German A. Orlov (advisor); front row, Vadim Ivanov, Yulya Smirnova, Darya Vasina, and Evgeny Golosnoi.

RON WATERMAN

SOVIET EXCHANGE STUDENTS TOUR TOWN; TALK WITH OFFICIALS AND TOWNSPEOPLE

Ten Soviet students from the Maurice Thorez Institute of Foreign Languages in Moscow were in Monterey during the afternoon and evening of October 12. The eight young men, two women and their faculty advisor had discussions with the Town Clerk and former Assessor Cynthia Weber. They asked penetrating questions concerning the method of electing Town officials, levying taxes, and financing the schools.

They also spoke with real estate broker Nancy Kalodner about the renting and/or selling of private homes and land, and about brokers' fees. They pointed out that private ownership of homes is permitted in the Soviet Union, but that land ownership and brokers' fees are not. They also mentioned that mortgages can be obtained from state banks at 2% interest for the purchase of homes. Millions of new apartments are being built every year, and newlyweds have a priority.

On a tour of Wayne Dunlop and Susan Sellew's Rawson Brook Farm, the students observed goat milking and cheese-making and were given samples of goat cheeese to take with them. At the Tryon Farm, Roger Tryon took them on a tour of the maple sugar facility and let them taste some maple syrup, a commodity that is unknown in the Soviet Union.

In the late afternoon and evening, the visiting group was greeted at a covered dish supper in the Monterey church social room. About 65 people were present, including 13 who came from out of town. The room was colorfully bedecked with Soviet peace posters and a 15-foot-long banner made by Mrs. Joan ("Tiger") Waterman, who, along with her husband Ronald, brought four students from the Hoosac Valley High School in Adams, Massachusetts, and three from Berkshire Community College in Pittsfield.

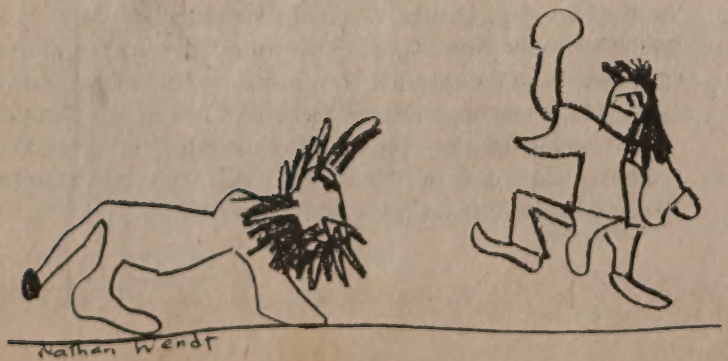
Each Soviet student told a bit about his or her family and their ambitions, and some commented on their feeling toward American students and American politics. In response to a question, one said, "I don't want to interfere in your internal affairs, but we would much prefer to see Mr. Dukakis elected rather than Mr. Bush, mainly because of the difference in their attitude toward disarmament." One of the two women students is the daughter of a woman who was the faculty advisor for the visiting group to Monterey in 1979. She pointed out that more men than women go into studies of foreign languages because it leads to jobs as translators. and a lot of foreign travel. Women prefer to become teachers so that they can stay in the Soviet Union and raise families.

Concerning "*perestroika*" and "*glasnost*," the new Soviet policies of restructuring their society and for more openness in criticism, it was explained that only a small minority of entrenched bureaucrats are opposed — and that the vast majority of Soviet people welcome these changes and believe they will make for an even better life than they now have. The faculty advisor, Prof. Orlov, said he had been to the U. S. A. twice before, at intervals of approximately 13 years. "In 1961, on my first visit, I found vast ignorance of my country. I was asked such questions as, 'How do your dogs bark?' And thirteen years later, a university law professor said to me, 'How is life in Asia, where you live in Moscow?' Just imagine! A professor of law not knowing that Moscow is in Europe and not in Asia! But today, in 1988 I find there is much more interest and knowledge about my country, and that is good."

— Bernard Kleban

His eating habits are disgusting.
It's not that he does not delicately clip the aspen leaves
one by one, disdaining their slender stalks, he does, but
he squats heavily on the branches,
breaks them, brown-leafed his perches litter the tree ground,
destroyed by him,
half-devoured, and in the bared trees high he hangs, fat,
filling his insolent gullet in the dying, crazily stunted tree,
mine, dark and bloated gourmand, and does not respect me.
And when perchance we meet, him on his slow way between two
food sources that do not belong
to him,
he turns me his shoulder, disdainfully, with a bristle betokening
"and what are you going to do about it?!" the bastard.
His father ate my one pear tree's first crop. This one
won't live that long.

— Stefan Brecht



COYOTE I

She lies in that hot arroyo,
Her intercostal muscles gleaming
Over her still ribs,
Her white teeth bared forever.
She seems to wear fluffy slippers
Since the rest of her hide was stripped away.
With her tail and ears gone
She is bereft of her Coyote particularity.
All that was left to her
Was her defiance, and the new life
Stirring in the insect community
Thriving in the soft interior
Under the sun-hardened flesh.

COYOTE II

In the shallows across the Salt River
That gray shape moving downstream
Is resolved in the binoculars:
A coyote two hundred yards away.
And now we hear the water, disturbed
by his purposeful, invisible feet.
His glossy fur, rolling over powerful muscles,
He is alert, the god of desert life and cunning.
He is carrying something like half a rabbit;
We watch a good five minutes until
He melts into the riparian willows,
Taking food home—
Is the mother of his pups
Lying still in a sun-baked arroyo?

— David P. McAllester

NOTE OF THANKS

The Monterey Halloween Party Committee wants to thank the many individuals and institutions responsible for invaluable help in producing the Halloween Party. Chief among these are the following:

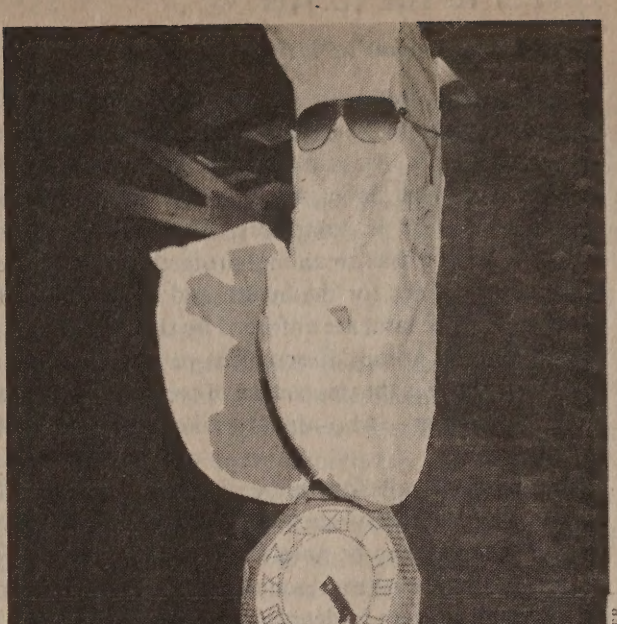
Roger Tryon	Richard Sheridan
Mad Scot Small Engine Repair	Leonard Weber
Monterey Fire Company	Benchmark Realty
Edith Wilson	Buddy Rodgers
Bob Thieriot	Rick Mielke
John Humphrey	Precision Auto Body
Wild Geese Outfitters	Hebert Realty
Peter Vallianos	Corashire Realty
Happy Home Carpentry	Monterey Masonry
Monterey General Store	Gorilla Productions
Tryon Construction	Eileen Clawson, Typesetting
Stefan Grotz	Berkshire Racing Green

Dean and Fran Amidon

We are grateful to the above and many others who volunteered their time to the children of Monterey.

SUSAN McALLESTER

Private Eye Snoops and a couple of cats



SUSAN McALLESTER

Paul Makuc as Mac Tonight

THE FIRE COMPANY HALLOWEEN PARTY

Prize winners were:
Best costumes: Paul Makuc, Alix Tillett, and Jeremy Vallianos
Best carved pumpkins: Paul Makuc, John Mulroy, and Shawn Tryon

SUSAN McALLESTER

Shawn Tryon's winning jack-o-lantern

SUSAN McALLESTER

Battering Linda Thorpe's spidery piñata

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

No to Farm Animal Initiative

As a lifelong Berkshire County farmer with considerable livestock and dairy experience, I am very concerned about the potential threat to Massachusetts farmers posed by Question 3 on the November ballot, the so-called farm animal initiative.

This legislation is completely unnecessary, since Massachusetts already has an animal protection system that works (state law provides for the health and humane treatment of animals, and the laws are enforced by the Division of Animal Health and the Animal Rescue League). What the legislation will bring about is the imposition of costly new regulations on the small farmer—who already takes excellent care of his animals.

The initiative calls for the creation of a "scientific advisory board," made up of five members appointed by the governor, four of whom are to be nominated by animal rights groups. Farmers will have *no* representation on a board that will have far-reaching powers in determining farm policy.

It is worth noting that the initiative was overwhelmingly rejected by the Massachusetts Legislature: the House voted 147 to 2, and the Senate, 34 to 0. Yet a small group of activists—the first ten signators are all from the city of Boston and its suburbs—have succeeded in placing the issue on the ballot.

The legislation is opposed by the Massachusetts Committee to Save the Family Farm. Its members include farmers, the Massachusetts Farm Bureau, the Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association, and many other concerned people.

Vote no on Question 3.

— Richard D. Tryon

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SMALL FARMS DAY '88

A Creative Look at the Land-Food-Agriculture Preservation Equation

The fourth annual Small Farms Day will take place on Friday and Saturday, November 11-12, at Monument Mt. Regional High School in Great Barrington. This year's event departs from previous celebrations of agriculture to acknowledge concerns and propose creative solutions to preserving the balance and beauty of the rural Berkshires. Preservation combines building a strong agriculture with keeping land in cultivation and ensuring the rural character and quality of land, small towns, woodlands, mountains and lakes. Small Farms Day '88, with an emphasis on real life application and practical steps, invites food producers, town officials, and community members to work together for creative and sustainable solutions to rural growth.

On Friday, November 11, at 7:30 p.m., *The Milagro Beanfield War* will be shown as a special feature movie. Produced and directed by Robert Redford, this beautiful and enchantingly comic film captures the struggle of a small New Mexico hill-town as it fights to save itself from exploitation by developers. Parallels with the Berkshires are evident.

On Saturday, November 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., examples from Switzerland, Western Massachusetts, and southern Connecticut will illustrate how some communities are successfully preserving what is valued while creatively integrating growth that sustains a close land and community relationship. Preserving farms and farmland, the character of small towns, and the breadth of natural resources will be the focus of six workshops.

Advance registration is $3.00 for the film, $5.00 for the Saturday program. Call Cooperative Extension at 448-8285 for your brochure or find them in the library, Roadside Store and General Store.

— Cathy A. Roth
Cooperative Extension
University of Massachusetts

WANTED: MASTER GARDENERS

A unique opportunity is available to become a Master Gardener with Berkshire Cooperative Extension. Master Gardeners are individuals who complete a training program and contribute volunteer time in helping fellow citizens with their horticultural problems. The training program includes classes on soils and fertilizers, lawn care, fruit and vegetable gardening, pests and diseases of plants, and more. Classes are taught by University of Massachusetts faculty and Extension specialists.

In return for their training, volunteers assist in diagnostic clinics, soil testing and answering gardening questions from Berkshire County residents. If you have an interest in horticulture and some free time, why not consider becoming a Master Gardener? For more information or an application, contact the Berkshire County Cooperative Extension office, 46 Summer Street, Pittsfield 01201; (413) 448-8285. Enrollment is limited and training starts in early January, so don't wait!

— Ronald F. Kujawski
Cooperative Extension
University of Massachusetts

"GROWING SMART"

The Planning Board will host a presentation on growth management on December 8, 7:00-9:00 p.m., at the Town offices. "Growing Smart" is a thought-provoking media presentation, followed by a discussion which examines the options we face in determining the future of our landscape. It has been prepared by and will be given by the Center for Rural Massachusetts, U. Mass., Amherst. All interested citizens are welcome.

PLANNING BOARD VACANCY

Due to the resignation of Art Hastedt, the Monterey Planning Board now has a vacancy, which will be filled by appointment by the Planning Board and the Selectmen. Any registered Monterey voter who wishes to be considered for the post should send his/her name to the Planning Board, c/o Town offices, Monterey, by November 8.

— Joe Baker

NOTICE

Word has been coming back to us that Glenn M. Heller, sometimes under the name of Martin Heller, has been representing himself as a reporter for the *Monterey News*. This is a formal notice that neither of these personae has any position on the staff of this paper.

— David P. McAllester, Ed.

Chris Bragdon
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MONTEREY WASTELINES

Fix It!

The solid waste scenario gets more and more intricate with each dump closing and with every new addition to the growing list of items refused at local transfer stations. (I understand that our Monterey contract operator, Berkshire Clean-Way, is no longer taking fridges and stoves at the transfer station.)

There's one sure way to avoid the disposal hassle—fix it and keep on using it!

In the good old days people used to use and re-use everything. Fixing and patching were the norm. The cobbler, the neighborhood mechanic and the narrow-aisled hardware store were our allies in keeping the household running smoothly—and keeping our junk pile small. But these days there are few cobblers, and the cost trade-off between repairing and buying new is not often clear. The neighborhood mechanic is likely to tell us to buy a new mower, and K-Mart doesn't stock parts for a 1955 Sunbeam Mixmaster.

But if you look around, spend some time and follow leads, you can often find ways to fix worn-out household items. Some of the heroes in our solid waste crisis are those established hardware stores which still *do* stock unusual parts. I'm overjoyed when I stop at Foster's and find a 1" fine thread nut. It was a major revelation, last week, to find that Lee Power Equipment stocks parts for the little throw-away Homelite chain saw which K-Mart sells gleefully but would never, ever have parts for.

New ways and modern times are not all bad, however. We have better glues and adhesives now than we/they did 30 years ago. Think of all the epoxies, Bondo and Flex-o-Fix products we can buy to repair a hammer handle, to fill auto body holes or to mend a plastic wastebasket. Goop worked wonders for me last week on a torn pair of shoe rubbers. And there's that great invention, the electric glue gun. Lots of cracked and broken things can be stuck together with hot plastic.

I have to be honest about this fixing thing, though. It doesn't always work for me, either. A couple of months ago I took my watch apart, lost a screw under the couch, went to Radio Shack for a new battery and installed it. You guessed it—the new battery didn't solve the problem and I still had to buy a new watch.

The essence of the solid waste crisis is that higher disposal prices are bringing out into the open just a fraction of the hidden costs we all must pay (financially *and* ecologically) for our past and present throw-away society. The important cost externalities relating to product disposal are much too slowly being drawn into the true cost of buying a car, a hammer or a wastebasket. We could start to balance the equation by enacting deposits on new large ticket items. You pay an extra $500 deposit (let's say) on a new car, which could be redeemed when it is junked. Or the carcass of your new washer would have a $50 price on its lid, reserved for whoever has the honor of owning it when it clunks out its last load. What do you think?

Meantime, keep a tube of Goop on hand. Fix it if you can, can it if you can't, and encourage anyone who stocks parts for those venerable old machines which still work after all these years.

— Wayne Burkhart

LAKE GARFIELD ASSOCIATION

The Selectmen initially notified the public that the Lake Garfield drawdown would commence on October 6 to the full depth possible, which is usually about 5'8". This hopefully would continue the weed control. Apparently the Conservation Commission objected to this and prevailed upon the Selectmen to change their minds and limit the drawdown to two to three feet only and that for spring runoff rather than to deter weed growth. On September 26 the Selectmen requested that the officers of the Lake Garfield Association meet with them and the Conservation Commission to relay the information on the change in plans to the officers of the Association. Bud Pearl and I attended to hear their decision. We attempted to change their minds to continue the lake drawdown but to no avail.

The Conservation Commission has requested that information be provided to justify the drawdown and prove that it is environmentally sound and also that it does succeed. I am attempting to contact experts to find out what the cost will be and how soon this information may be produced. I certainly hope that drawdown may continue next year as a "partial" method at least of controlling weed growth. I am afraid that without it we will soon be in a "swampy" condition at our lake. Hopefully various studies being conducted throughout the state will come up with some solution(s).

In years past the Lake Garfield Association had committees studying all sorts of alternative control measures such as aeration, dredging, chemicals, carp, plastic over the lake bottom in certain areas, weed harvesting, nutrient elimination and others. We have at various times published rules about limiting phosphorus and nitrogen flow into the lake, and we realize that drawdown is not the final answer, but until something better comes along, most feel that it is at least a temporary solution.

Those of us who have used the lake for many years have noted a marked improvement since drawdown was begun several years ago. The weeds this past year were worse than they have been in several years, most likely because the lake was not drawn down fully last year and also due to the extremely high water temperature this past summer. The lack of drawdown this coming year will compound the weed problem of last year, making two years in a row without proper drawdown control.

We will continue to work to attempt to satisfy the demands of the Conservation Commission and the Selectmen so that drawdown may be used again in the fall of '89. Those of you who are on the nominating committee and the lake management committee should start to think about your responsibilities in order that we may have positive results to report on at our next meeting on June 24, 1989. In the meantime have a healthy and happy winter season.

— Dean P. Amidon, President
Lake Garfield Association

NOTICE

A sum of money was found in the road near the Grange Hall. Owner please call 269-4936 after 6:00 p.m. to identify and collect.

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GRANGE NEWS

Monterey Grange No. 291 met October 5 when the first and second degrees were conferred. Assisting the local Grange were Deputy Peter Martin, Sidney Smith from West Stockbridge and State Youth Committee member Marion Keeler. At the Grange meeting on October 19, third and fourth degrees were conferred, the third degree by the Ladies Degree Team with Master Mary Wallace and pianist Julia Harnum. The fourth degree was conferred by Worthy Master Tolitha Butler and the regular officers. Subordinate Deputy Peter Martin was also present.

Lecturer Mary Wallace represented the Monterey Grange at the Massachusetts State Grange Convention at Chicopee, October 26–29.

The next meeting will be November 2. The theme of the program will be "Let us give thanks."

— Mary Wallace
Lecturer

CONSERVATION COMMISSION NEWS

The Conservation Commission met October 11 and considered plans for driveways within the 100-foot buffer zone of a wetland.

In one case the driveway is an old one in need of patching and in the other it is a new driveway being put in near a brook. Since the first project will involve only hand tools and a wheelbarrow and will clearly pose no threat to the water quality of the nearby wetland, Lake Garfield, the Commission was able to allow it with the usual cautions about erosion and run-off.

In the case of the proposed new driveway, the Commission required an engineered plan and is currently reviewing the ditching, culverts, slope, and other details of the plan.

The next Conservation Commission meeting will be November 14, 7:30 p.m., in the Grange basement.

— Bonner McAllester

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LAND TRUST NEWS AND WWWDTL

Now that Woodburn Farm has been accepted into the APR program it turns out to be a classic example of how a Land Trust works with its community and Town officials and falls in with the WWWDTL concept.

At the Land Trust Exchange Rally held in Colorado in September, and again at a meeting for Massachusetts Land Trusts sponsored by the Trustees of Reservations on October 15, the importance of WIN WIN WIN DOWN THE LINE (WWWDTL) was stressed over and over again. Simply put, this means that in Land Trust negotiations everyone had better win or you, the Land Trust, loses.

All the players in the preservation of Woodburn Farm are winners: (1) Shel Fenn wins by seeing his farm preserved in perpetuity, and earning some equity for having preserved it. (We should bear in mind that he could have gotten three times as much on the open market.) (2) The Town Fathers (and Mother) win by not having to deal with the problem of how the Town would come up with $25,000, and not having to attend lengthy sessions with state officials. (3) The state officials win. The effort was handled professionally, and they are grateful to Monterey for this. (4) The real estate people (although they were not involved as players in this transaction) are definite winners. As Nancy Dinan pointed out when she contributed to the Fund, "We in the real estate business are dependent on the beauty and productivity of open land. . . ." (5) The Land Trust wins. By raising the funds, keeping the community in touch with the project, contacting and enlisting the support of our state representatives, alerting its membership, we were able to provide the energy to preserve an important part of Monterey. (6) The Town of Monterey is the biggest winner of all. Thanks to the generosity of its townspeople, it has saved **in perpetuity** a farm of agricultural value and enduring beauty.

And George Wislocki is a winner. Not enough can be said about the indispensable help of George Wislocki and his Berkshire Natural Resources Council. George was invaluable in every area—from getting us through the necessary paperwork and working with the state agencies, to attending our functions and keeping after the powers that be. We are forever grateful for his continual aid, know-how and encouragement. So, how does he win? He is a winner in that we have learned a lot in these last months and what we learn saves him from having to teach us.

Onward and Upward. WWWDTL!

— Joyce Scheffey

MONTEREY LIBRARY NOTES

November is the in-between month. Right now, we are in between autumn and winter; between the fall of the leaves and the fall of the snow; between the activity of summer and the still of the winter; between Labor Day and Christmas vacation. I can never quite figure November out—is it early winter or late fall? The beginning of something, or the end?

We are somewhat in between things at the library, too. We are now in between the summer reading/discussion series and the winter film series; between the book sale and the budget meeting; between the trustees' organizational meeting after Town Meeting in May and the elections the next year. All of which is a round-about way of confessing that there really isn't too much to report about happenings at the library this month.

This is as it should be in a month like November. Take a rest from running around—there will be time for that next month during the Christmas rush (but not enough time, I know!). November is time for sitting back and reading books, and for feeling thankful for special things, like the Monterey Library.

— John Higgins
Chairman, Library Trustees

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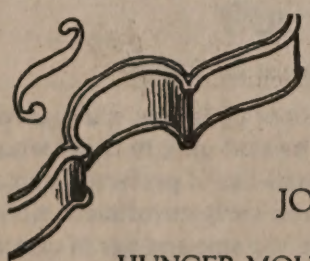
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, November 3—Meeting on skating rink, with the Park Commission. 7:30 p.m. in the Town office. See Park Commission report in this issue.

Sunday, November 6—Boiler Room Café, 6:00 p.m., "performance poet" Mikhail Horowitz, and Joe Giardullo on saxophone. $5.00 admission.

***Tuesday, November 8*—Presidential election. Polls at the firehouse will be open from 7:30 a.m. until 8:30 p.m.**

Wednesday, November 9—Bernice Lewis, songwriter and guitarist from Lenox, at the Community Supper, 6:30 p.m. in the Church social room. Bring your best confection and sample your neighbors' and enjoy this talented musician.

Friday, November 11—Small Farms workshops by the University of Massachusetts Cooperative Extension. Begins with witty and poignant movie, *The Milagro Beanfield War*, 7:30 p.m., Monument Mt. High School, Great Barrington.

Saturday, November 12—Small Farms workshops from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Monument Mt. High School. See notice in this issue.

—Square and Contra Dance, New England style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. 8:30-11:30 p.m. Beginners and children welcome. All dances taught by caller Joe Baker, music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Adults, $4; children, $1 to dance until intermission. Information: 413-528-9385 or 518-329-7578.

Sunday, November 13—Boiler Room Café: Janine Pommy Vega, poet, and jazz violinist Betty McDonald. 6:00 p.m., $5.00 admission.

Sunday, November 20—Boiler Room Café: *Berkshire Eagle* journalists Michelle Gillett, Bonner McAllester, and Steve Moore: poetry and stories that you won't read in the paper. 6:00 p.m., $3.00.

Saturday, November 26—Square and Contra Dance by Mt. Laurel; this program is for people who have done it before. See above, November 12, for details.

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THE MILAGRO BEANFIELD WAR

WINTER HOURS FOR MONTEREY DISPOSAL AREA

Beginning Sunday, November 6, the winter hours for the Monterey Disposal Area will be as follows:

Sunday: 10:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Saturday: 8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

AD RATES

One-inch classified ads (1" x 3⅝")	$ 2.50
Two-inch busines cards (2" x 3⅝")	5.00
Three-inch ad (3" x 3⅝")	7.50
Four-inch ad (4" x 3⅝")	10.00

Back cover ads are double the above prices. No classifieds on the back cover. Copy should reach the editor by the 20th of the month before publication. In general, we cannot run letters more than one column in length.

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Business Manager	Barbara Gauthier
Art Editor	Bonner McAllester
Personal Notes Editor	Stephanie Grötz
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	Eileen Clawson
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